

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 remains pending in the application. New claims 10-13 have been added by this amendment.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 USC § 112 as being indefinite. In response, the claims have been amended and accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under USC § 101 as being neither directed to a process or to a machine. In response, claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite process steps thereby overcoming the § 101 rejection. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hayes-Roth (US2003/0028493 A1). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Hayes-Roth discloses an expert system wherein the client interface, which is the gist of the invention, comprises two kinds of components: those which are application independent and those which are application dependent (see e. g. [0040]). Moreover, the minimum required architecture comprises, on the client side, a self-contained computer (see [132] to [138]), and comprises, on the server side another self-contained computer (see [139] to [142]), this architecture merely being a "standard client-server architecture" (see [132]), i.e. a well-known three-tier architecture such as the one described with reference to the left part of figure 1 in the present application. This reference achieves a customizable expert agent (i.e. a man-machine interface) that interacts with customers by using application-independent forms of expertise and partitioning expertise into application-independent AND application-specific components(see e.g. [40]), thus excluding any possibility to yield a system-user interaction independent of both application and interaction media (such a kind of interaction being a main object of present invention). Moreover, this reference neither forecasts nor suggests any customizable interaction layer between the client interface and the application server, i.e. a "middleware" for

gathering all components that are distributed between the application and the interaction media (such as the middleware layer 4 in Figure 1 of the present application).

Further, claims 10-13 have been added to emphasize that the PSIC provides a clear separation between the applications and the interfaces (see page 1, lines 18-20 and lines 31-33, page 5, line 8 of the present application) and/or that the user's interface goes via the PSIC which interprets any action on the interface and generates its own calls to the application (see page 5, lines 10-14 of the present application). For at least these reasons, the anticipation rejection of claims 1 and 2 should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed Applicants respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kenneth M. Berner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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